



PILLAR III DISCLOSURES

According to Directives DI144-2014-15 and DI144-2014-14 of the Cyprus Securities & Exchange Commission for the prudential supervision of investment firms and Part Eight of Regulation (EU) No 575/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on prudential requirements for credit institutions and investment firms

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

April 2020



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Group Information

The purpose of this document is to disclose information in accordance with the scope of application of the Capital Requirements Directive IV (CRD IV) requirements for **Goldenburg Holding Limited** (hereinafter, the ‘Group’).

Goldenburg Holding Limited was incorporated in the Republic of Cyprus on 15 September 2015 as a limited liability company with registration number HE 347043 and it is the parent entity of **Goldenburg Group Ltd** (the “Company”) was incorporated in the Republic of Cyprus on 07 January 2014 as a private limited liability company with registration number HE 328474 and it is a Cyprus Investment Firm (hereinafter “CIF”). The Company was licensed by the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (hereinafter the “CySEC”) with number CIF 242/14 to provide financial services, on 14 July 2014 and the licence was activated on 17 September 2014.

Moreover, pursuant to the Regulation (EU) 575/2013 (the “Regulation” or “CRR”), the Group’s minimum/initial capital requirement is **€125,000**.

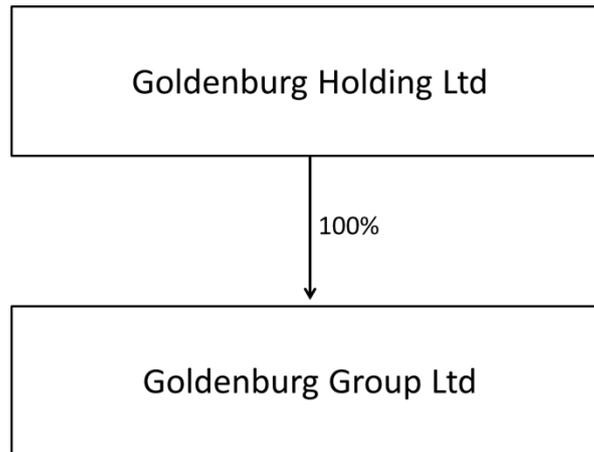
1.2. Scope of application

The Pillar III disclosures Report (the ‘Report’) is prepared in accordance with the Pillar 3 disclosure requirements as laid out in Part Eight of the CRR and have as a starting point the financial information used in the Financial Statements which are prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). As the two documents serve different purposes, the reported figures illustrate differences, which lie on the differences of the fundamental concepts between the CRR and the IFRS. The regulatory exposure classes are based on different criteria from accounting asset types and are therefore not comparable on a line by line basis. Moreover, through financial statements, a Group aims to provide the value of all on-balance sheet items at a given point in time, whereas regulatory exposures entail an element of risk which is taken into consideration during the calculation and determination of the said exposures.

The Company reviewed its Group structure as at 30 June 2019 as per CySEC’s Dear CEO letter and the relevant provisions as stipulated in CySEC’s Directive DI144-2014-14 & DI144-2014-14(A) (the “Directive”) and CRR and reached to the conclusion that the Group falls under consolidated supervision by CySEC. In this respect, the Group is publishing the disclosures on a consolidated basis.

The report is based on the Annual Reports and Consolidated Financial Statements which are prepared in accordance with IFRS and the provisions of the Cyprus Company Law, Cap. 113.

The basis of consolidation of the Group entities for accounting and prudential purposes is presented in the Group Structure below:



The Group, its activities and consolidation method as at 31 December 2019 are presented in the table below.

Table 1: Basis of Consolidation of Group entities for regulatory purposes

Name of the entity	Method of accounting consolidation	Method of regulatory consolidation	Description of the entity
Goldenburg Holding Ltd	Full consolidation	Full consolidation	Financial Holding Company
Goldenburg Group Ltd	Full consolidation	Full consolidation	Investment Firm

1.3. Pillar III Regulatory framework

1.3.1. Overview

This Report has been prepared in accordance with Section 4 (Paragraph. 32) of the Directive for the prudential supervision of investment firms which implements the Regulation and the CRD IV, as well as the relevant provisions of new Law 87(I)/2017 (hereinafter, the “Law”), as amended.

The CRR establishes the prudential requirements for capital, liquidity and leverage that entities need to abide by. Furthermore, CRR introduces significant changes in the prudential regulatory regime applicable to institutions including amended minimum capital ratios, changes to the definition of capital and the calculation or risk weighted assets and the introduction of new measures relating to leverage, liquidity and funding. Additionally, CRR is immediately binding on all EU member states. CRD IV governs access to internal governance arrangements including remuneration, Board of Directors (the “Board” or “BoD”) composition and transparency.

The Regulatory framework consists of a three “Pillar” approach:

- **Pillar I** - Establishes minimum capital requirements, defines eligible capital instruments, and prescribes rules for calculating RWA for credit risk, market risk and operational risk.
- **Pillar II** – Requires firms and supervisors to take a view on whether a firm should hold additional capital against: risks considered under Pillar I that are not fully captured by the Pillar I process (e.g. credit concentration risk), risks not taken into account by the Pillar I process (e.g. interest rate risk in the banking book, business and strategic risk) and factors



external to the firm (e.g. business cycle effects). Pillar II connects the regulatory capital requirements to the Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (“ICAAP”) and to the reliability of its internal control structures. The function of Pillar II is to provide communication between supervisors and institutions on a continuous basis and to evaluate how well the institutions are assessing their capital needs relative to their risks. If a deficiency arises, prompt and decisive action is taken to restore the appropriate relationship of capital to risk.

- **Pillar III** - Market Discipline requires the disclosure of information regarding the risk management policies of the Group, as well as the results of the calculations of minimum capital requirements, together with concise information as to the composition of original own funds.

1.3.2. Disclosure Policy: Basis and Frequency of Disclosure / Location and verification

The Group has a formal policy, approved by the Board, which details its approach in complying fully with the Pillar 3 disclosure requirements as laid out in Part Eight of the CRR. According to the Directive, the risk management disclosures should be included in either the financial statements if these are published, or on their websites.

The Pillar III disclosure requirements are contained in Articles 431 to 455 of the Regulation. In addition, these disclosures must be verified by the external auditors of the Group and the Group is responsible to submit the external auditors’ verification report to CySEC. The Group has included its risk management disclosures as per the Directive on its website as it does not publish its financial statements.

As per the Article 432(1) of the CRR, institutions may omit one or more disclosures, if such disclosures are not regarded as material, except for the following disclosures:

- Regarding the policy on diversity with regard to selection of members of the management body, its objectives and any relevant targets set out in that policy, and the extent to which these objectives and targets have been achieved (*Article 435 (2) (c)* of CRR).
- Own funds (*Article 437* of CRR).
- Remuneration policy (*Article 450* of CRR).

Materiality is based on the criterion that the omission or misstatement of information would be likely to change or influence the decision of a reader relying on that information for the purpose of making economic decisions. Where the Group has considered a disclosure to be immaterial, this was not included in the document.

Disclosures and Confidential Information

The Regulation also provides that institutions may omit one or more disclosures, if such disclosures are regarded as confidential or proprietary. The CRR defines proprietary as if sharing that information with the public would undermine its competitive position. It may include information on products or systems which, if shared with competitors, would render an institution’s investments therein less valuable.

Information is regarded as confidential if there are obligations to customers or other counterparty relationships binding the institution to confidentiality. Under the light of the above, the Group avoided to disclose such confidential information in this report.



Frequency

The Group's policy is to publish the disclosures required on an annual basis. The frequency of disclosure will be reviewed should there be a material change in approach used for the calculation of capital, business structure or regulatory requirements.

Medium and location of publication

Institutions may determine the appropriate medium, location and means of verification to comply effectively with the disclosure requirements. In this respect, the Pillar III disclosures are published on:

- www.goldenburggroup.eu;
- www.topforex.com;
- www.toptrader.eu;
- www.fxglobal.com;
- www.tradecentrum.com;
- www.etrader.eu;
- www.xpartners.com;
- www.cfdworld.com

Verification

The Pillar III disclosures are subject to internal review and validation prior to being submitted to the Board for approval. The Pillar III disclosures have been reviewed and approved by the Board. In addition, the Remuneration disclosures have been reviewed by the Risk Manager.

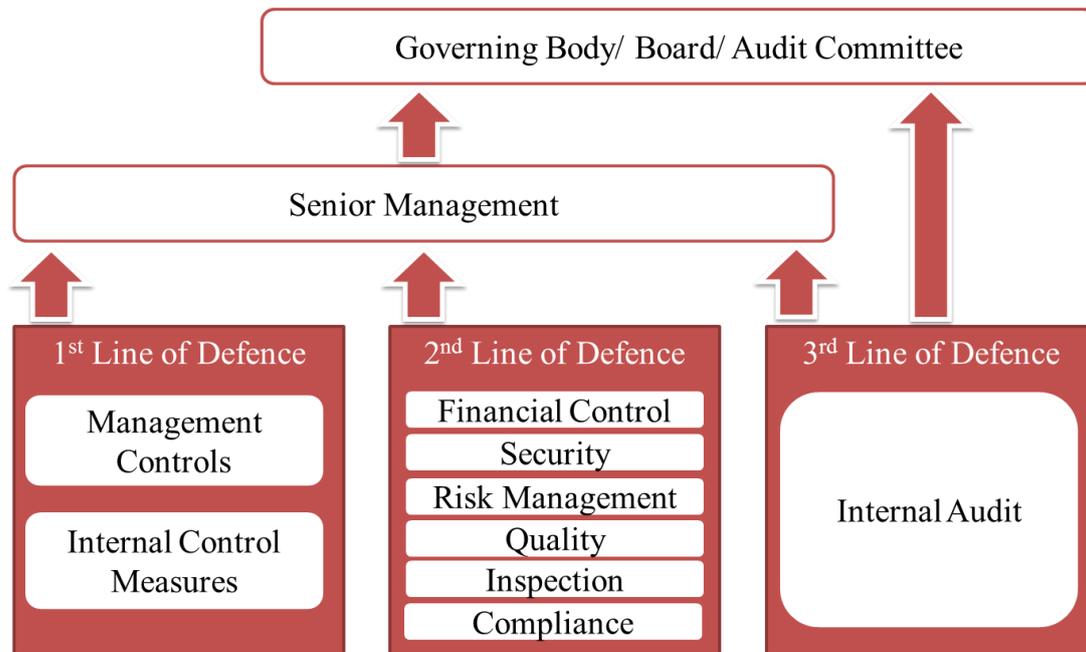
1.4. Risk management objectives and policies

To ensure effective risk management, the Group has adopted the Three Lines of Defence model, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities.

First Line of Defence: Managers are responsible for establishing an effective control framework within their area of operation and identifying and controlling all risks so that they are operating within the organisational risk appetite and are fully compliant with policies and where appropriate defined thresholds. First Line of Defence acts as an early warning mechanism for identifying (or remedying) risks or failures.

Second Line of Defence: The Risk Management Function is responsible for proposing to the Board appropriate objectives and measures to define the risk appetite and for devising the suite of policies necessary to control the business including the overarching framework and for independently monitoring the risk profile, providing additional assurance where required. The Risk Management Function will leverage their expertise by providing frameworks, tools and techniques to assist management in meeting their responsibilities, as well as acting as a central coordinator to identify enterprise wide risks and make recommendations to address them. Integral to the mission of Second Line of Defence is identifying risk areas, detecting situations/activities, in need of monitoring and developing policies to formalise risk assessment, mitigation and monitoring.

Third Line of Defence: Comprised by the Internal Audit Function which is responsible for providing assurance to the Board on the adequacy of design and operational effectiveness of the systems of internal controls. Internal Audit undertakes on-site inspections/visits to ensure that the responsibilities of each Function are discharged properly (i.e. soundly, honestly and professionally) as well as reviews the relevant policies and procedures. Internal Audit works closely with both the First and Second Lines of Defence to ensure that its findings and recommendations are taken into consideration and followed, as applicable.



1.4.1. Risk Management Framework

Managing risk effectively in a Group operating in a continuously changing risk environment requires a strong risk management culture. As a result, the Group has established an effective risk oversight structure and the necessary internal organisational controls to ensure that the Group undertakes the following:

- The adequate risk identification and management
- The establishment of the necessary policies and procedures
- The setting and monitoring of the relevant limits and
- Compliance with the applicable legislation

The Board meets on a regular basis, and receives updates on risk and regulatory capital matters from management. The Board reviews regularly (at least annually) written reports concerning compliance, risk management and internal audit policies, procedures and work as well as the Group’s risk management policies and procedures as implemented by Management.

As part of its business activities, the Group faces a variety of risks, the most significant of which are described further below. The Group holds regulatory capital against three all-encompassing main types of risk: credit risk, market risk and operational risk.



1.4.2. Risk Statement

The Group's activities expose it to a variety of risks, and in particular to credit risk, market risk, operational risk, compliance risk, regulatory risk, reputational risk, group risk, strategic risk, liquidity risk, conduct risk etc. The Group, through its operations, has significant exposure to the economies and financial markets.

Even though the global economy has recorded growth in the latest year after overcoming the latest economic recession, the overall future economic outlook of the economy remains unstable due to the recent developments on the outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19).

In particular and following the outbreak of COVID-19 in Cyprus, the Firm has taken the required measures to ensure that its employees have access to its technology infrastructures necessary for the completion of their tasks and that additional system for critical functions are being provided. In this respect, the Business Continuity Plan has been amended accordingly. Furthermore, the Group is closely monitoring the impact of COVID-19 on its financial position in order to be able to take proactive measures.

Risk Strategy

The risk strategy of the Group is the responsibility of the Board, which formulates it and is responsible for monitoring its implementation. This is achieved through the development of risk management processes and procedures as well as through an assessment of the risks undertaken and the effectiveness of the risk management framework, given the Group's business model. One important characteristic of the Group's risk strategy is the alignment with the strategic and operational targets that are set by the Board. The risks that arise from the implementation of the Group's strategic and business plans are regularly analysed in order to ensure the adequacy of the relevant policies, procedures and systems.

The risk strategy of the Group aims to provide to both Senior Management and employees a general risk framework for the management of the different types of risk in line with the overall risk management and risk bearing capacity of the Group. The Group recognises the importance of risk management to its business success and therefore the overall objective is to establish effective risk management policies that are able to mitigate the Group's exposure to the various risks.

Risk Appetite

Risk appetite is the level and type of risk a firm is able and willing to assume in its exposures and business activities, given its business objectives and obligations to stakeholders. Risk appetite is generally expressed through both quantitative and qualitative means and should consider extreme conditions, events and outcomes. In addition, risk appetite should reflect potential impact on earnings, capital and funding/liquidity. The Group has a low risk appetite in respect to investing and to managing business and operational activities

According to Financial Stability Board (FSB) an appropriate risk appetite framework (RAF) should enable risk target, risk appetite, risk limits and risk profile to be considered for business lines and legal entities as relevant, and within the group context. The Risk appetite framework is defined as the overall approach, including policies, processes, controls, and systems through



which risk appetite is established, communicated, and monitored. Moreover, it includes a risk appetite statement, risk limits, and an outline of the roles and responsibilities of those overseeing the implementation and monitoring of the RAF. The RAF should consider material risks to the financial institution, as well as to the institution's reputation vis-à-vis policyholders, depositors, investors and customers. The RAF aligns with the institution's strategy.

The Group is assessing its risk appetite in respect to investing and to managing business and operational activities while the Group's Risk Appetite Statement is prepared by the Risk Manager and approved by the Board.

Table 2: Risk Appetite areas

Capital Indicator	Normal ¹	Warning ²	Limit ³
Own Funds	≥€2,500k	<€2,500k	€2,400k
Common Equity Tier 1 Ratio ⁴	≥8.00%	<8.00%	4.50%
Total Capital Ratio ⁴	≥11.50%	<11.50%	8.00%
Exposures with Shareholders	0%	>0%	2.00%
Exposures with Directors	0%	>0%	1.00%

Notes

1. The level of the indicator is within the acceptable limits as per the Group's risk appetite (Compliance with the CRD Requirement and the provisions of PS-2019-01.
2. The Group should take proactive actions in order to ensure that the level of the indicator will remain above the acceptable limits.
3. The level of the indicator falls below the acceptable limits and as such the Group should proceed with the required actions in order to restore the level of the said indicator to the normal predefined levels.
4. ICAAP add-on + 1.50% as per the paragraph 18 of the Law 20(I)/2016 have been taken into consideration for Normal and Warning thresholds

The Risk Appetite framework has been designed to create links to the strategic long term plan, capital planning and the risk management framework. The Board approves the Group's corporate strategy, business plans, budget, long term plan and ICAAP. The Group employs mitigation techniques defined within the policies, to ensure risks are managed within Risk Appetite.

1.4.3. Risk Culture

Risk culture is a critical element in the Group's risk management framework and procedures. Management considers risk awareness and risk culture within the Group as an important part of the effective risk management process. Ethical behaviour is a key component of the strong risk culture and its importance is also continuously emphasised by the management.

The Group is committed to embedding a strong risk culture throughout the business where everyone understands the risks they personally manage and are empowered and qualified to take accountability for them. The Group embraces a culture where each of the business areas is encouraged to take risk-based decisions, while knowing when to escalate or seek advice.

1.5. Declaration of the Management Body

The Management Body is required to proceed with an annual declaration on the adequacy of the Group's risk management framework and ensure that the risk management arrangements and systems of financial and internal control in place are in line with the Group's risk profile.



The risk management framework is designed to identify, assess, mitigate and monitor all sources of risk that could have a material impact on the Group's operations. The Board considers that it has in place adequate systems and controls with regard to the Group's size, risk profile and strategy and an appropriate array of assurance mechanisms, properly resourced and skilled, to avoid or minimise loss.



2. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The systems of risk management and internal control include risk assessment, management or mitigation of risks, including the use of control processes, information and communication systems and processes for monitoring and reviewing their continuing effectiveness. The risk management and internal control systems are embedded in the operations of the Group and are capable of responding quickly to evolving business risks, whether they arise from factors within the Group or from changes in the business environment.

2.1 The Board of Directors

The Board has the overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Risk Management Framework. The Board satisfies itself that financial controls and systems of risk management are robust. The number of directorships held by Executive and Non-Executive Directors in the Group do not exceed the maximum number allowed.

The Group has in place the Internal Operations Manual which lays down the activities, processes, duties and responsibilities of the Board, Committees, Senior Management and staff constituting the Group. It also implements and maintains adequate risk management policies and procedures which identify the risks relating to the activities, processes and systems, and where appropriate, set the level of risk tolerated by the Group. The Group adopts effective arrangements, processes and systems, in light of that level of risk tolerance, where applicable.

2.2. Number of Directorships held by members of the Board

The number of directorships which may be held by a member of the Board shall take into account individual circumstances and the nature, scale and complexity of the Group's activities. Unless representing the Republic, members of the Board of a CIF that is significant in terms of its size, internal organisation and the nature, the scope and the complexity of its activities shall not hold more than one of the following combinations of directorships at the same time:

- One executive directorship with two non-executive directorships;
- Four non-executive directorships.

Furthermore, directorships in organisations which do not pursue predominantly commercial objectives such as non-profit or charitable organisations shall not count for the purposes of the above guidelines. The table below discloses the number of directorships held by members of the management body in entities of the Group as at 31 December 2019.

Table 3: Number of Directorships held

Director	Position	Executive Directorships	Non-Executive Directorships
Andreas Sheritis	Executive Director	1	1
Antonios Christoforou	Executive Director	1	0
Matej Homola	Executive Director	1	0
Ivor Lehotan	Non-Executive Director	1	1
Christos Avgoustinos	Non-Executive Director	1	2



For the purposes of the above, Executive or non-executive directorships held within the same group shall count as a single directorship.

2.3. Policy on Recruitment

Recruitment into the Board combines an assessment of both technical capability and competency skills referenced against the Group's leadership framework. Members of the Board possess sufficient knowledge, skills and experience to perform their duties. The overall composition of the Board reflects an adequately broad range of experiences to be able to understand the Group's activities, including the main risks to ensure the sound and prudent management as well as sufficient knowledge, of the legal framework governing the operations.

2.4. Policy on Diversity

The Group is committed to promote a diverse and inclusive workplace at all levels, reflective of the communities in which it does business. It approaches diversity in the broadest sense, recognizing that successful businesses flourish through embracing diversity into their business strategy, and developing talent at every level in the organisation. For this purpose, the Group takes into consideration various aspects such as broad industry experience, knowledge, independence, gender, age, cultural and educational background, for the Board appointments.

2.5. Information flow on risk to the management body

Risk information flows up to the Board directly from the business departments and control functions. The Board ensures that it receives on a frequent basis, at least annually written reports regarding Internal Audit, Compliance, Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing and Risk Management issues and approves the ICAAP report as shown in the table below:



Table 4: Information flow on risk to management body

	Report Name	Owner of Report	Recipient	Frequency
1	Risk Management Report	Risk Manager	Senior Management, Board, CySEC	Annually
2	Pillar I – CRDIV CoRep Forms	Risk Manager	Senior Management, Board, CySEC	Quarterly
3	ICAAP (Pillar 2) Report	Risk Manager	Senior Management, Board	Annually
4	Pillar 3 Disclosures	Risk Manager	Senior Management, Board	Annually
5	Risk Register	Risk Manager	Senior Management, Board	Annually
6	Compliance Report	Compliance Officer	Senior Management, Board, CySEC	Annually
7	Internal Audit Report	Internal Auditor	Senior Management, Board, CySEC	Annually
8	Anti-money laundering (AMLCO) Report	Anti-money laundering Compliance Officer	Senior Management, Board, CySEC	Annually
9	Audited Financial Statements	External Auditor	Senior Management, Board, CySEC	Annually
10	Form 144-14-11 ‘Prudential Supervision Information’	Risk Manager	Senior Management, Board, CySEC	Annually

Furthermore, the Group believes that the risk governance processes and policies are of at most importance for its effective and efficient operation. The processes are reviewed and updated on an annual basis or when deemed necessary.



3. OWN FUNDS

Own Funds (also referred to as capital resources) is the type and level of regulatory capital that must be held to enable the Group to absorb losses. The Group is required to hold own funds in sufficient quantity and quality in accordance with CRD IV which sets out the characteristics and conditions for own funds.

The Group throughout the year under review managed its capital structure and made adjustments to it in light of the changes in the economic and business conditions and the risk characteristics of its activities.

3.1. Tier 1 & Tier 2 Regulatory Capital

Institutions shall disclose information relating to their own funds. Furthermore, institutions shall disclose a description of the main features of the Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) and Additional Tier 1 (AT1) instruments and Tier 2 (T2) instruments issued by the institution.

The Group's regulatory capital comprises CET1 capital and T2 capital. The composition of the capital base and capital ratios of the Group and its subsidiary are shown in the following table:

Table 5: Composition of the capital base and capital ratios

	Goldenburg Group Ltd (Solo)	Goldenburg Holding Ltd (Consolidated)
	€000	€000
CET1 capital before regulatory adjustments		
Capital instruments and the related share premium accounts	200	1
Other Reserves	43	43
Retained earnings	2,424	2,623
CET1 capital: regulatory adjustments		
Intangible assets	(8)	(8)
Additional deductions of CET1 Capital due to Article 3 of the CRR (*)	(104)	(104)
CET1 capital	2,555	2,555
AT1 capital	-	-
T1 = CET1 + AT1	2,555	2,555
Tier 2 (T2) capital	70	70
Total capital (TC = T1 + T2)	2,625	2,625
Risk weighted assets		
Credit risk	1,137	1,138
Market risk	413	413
Additional risk exposure amount due to fixed overheads**	7,316	7,322
Total Risk Weighted Assets	8,867	8,874



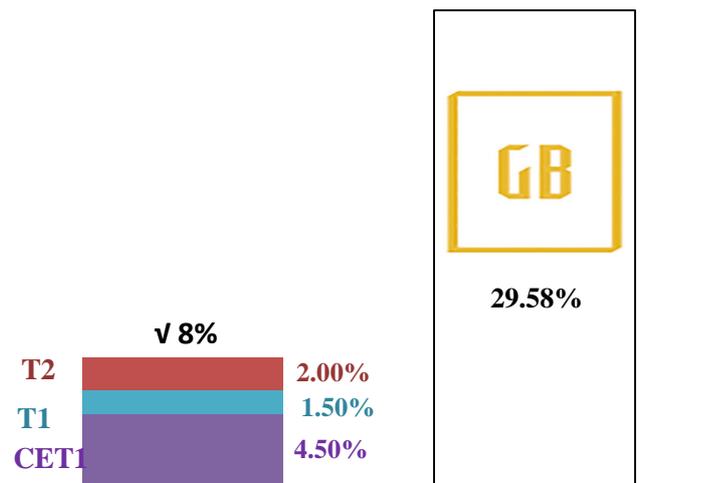
Capital Ratios and Buffers		
Common Equity Tier 1	28.82%	28.79%
Tier 1	28.82%	28.79%
Total Capital	29.61%	29.58%
CySEC’s Policy Statement PS-01-2019 Requirements		
Total Minimum Common Equity Tier 1 capital required to meet Pillar I risks	2,399	2,399
Actual Common Equity Tier 1 Capital at the reporting date	2,555	2,555
CET 1 Capital Ratio after Buffer (€2m)	6.26%	6.26%

*Treatment pursuant to Circular C162 (Capital adequacy requirements - Change in the treatment of the Investors Compensation Fund (“ICF”) Contribution) on 10 October 2016, according to which the contribution to ICF will no longer be risk weighted as an “exposure to public sector entities” pursuant to paragraph 13(3) of Directive DII44-2014-15. The said ICF exposure will be deducted from CET1 Capital pursuant to Article 3 (Application of stricter requirements by institutions) of the CRR. The aforementioned Article gives the member states the power to request from the institutions to hold own funds in excess of those required by the CRR. Moreover, according to the Circular C334 (Treatment of the additional cash buffer of Investors Compensation Fund (‘ICF’) in the own funds calculation), CIFs should deduct the additional Cash Buffer of 3 per thousand of the eligible funds and financial instruments of their clients as at the previous year calculated according to paragraph 11(6) of the Directive DI87-07 (operation of the ICF).

**Based on the solo and consolidated Audited Financial Statements for the year 2019.

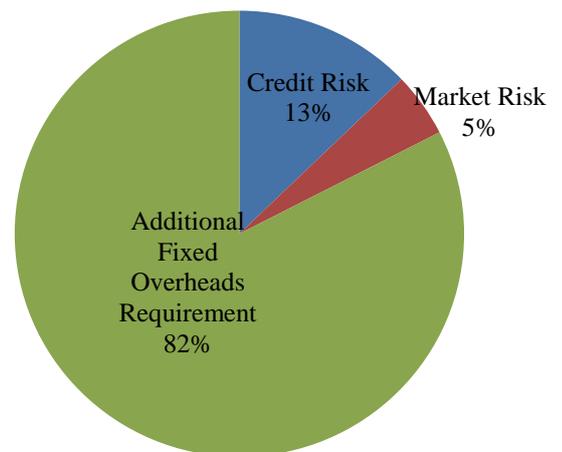
The figures below illustrate the capital adequacy requirements for the Group and the Group’s total exposures breakdown for the year 2019.

Capital Requirements



Minimum Regulatory Requirement Total Capital Ratio

Overall Exposure Breakdown





3.2. Main features of Common Equity Tier 1, Additional Tier 1 and Tier 2 instruments

In order to meet the requirements for disclosure of the main features of these instruments, the Group discloses the capital instruments' main features as outlined below:

Table 6: Main features of capital instruments

Capital Instruments Main Feature	Common Equity Tier 1		Tier 2
Issuer	Goldenburg Group Limited	Goldenburg Holding Limited	Goldenburg Group Limited
Regulatory Treatment			
Eligible at Solo/(sub-) consolidated/solo	Solo	Solo	Solo
Instrument type	Common Equity	Common Equity	Subordinated loan
Amount recognized in regulatory capital	€200k	€1k	€100k
Nominal amount of instrument	€200k	€1k	€100k
Issue Price	€1	€1	€100k
Accounting classification	Shareholders' Equity	Shareholders' Equity	Liability
Original date of issuance	€1k 07/01/2014 €199k 25/07/2014	15/09/2015	14/08/2014
Perpetual or dated	Perpetual	Perpetual	Perpetual
Original maturity date	No maturity	No maturity	Five years from date of written notice
Issuer call subject to prior supervisory approval	N/A	N/A	Yes
Coupons / dividends			
Fixed or floating dividend/coupon	Floating	Floating	Fixed
Coupon rate and any related index	N/A	N/A	0%

3.3. Balance Sheet Reconciliation

The following table provides a reconciliation of own funds between the consolidated balance sheet, as presented in the Consolidated Management Accounts of the Group, and the financial position of the Group prepared for regulatory purposes.

**Table 7: Balance Sheet Reconciliation**

Equity	Goldenburg Group Ltd (Solo)	Goldenburg Holding Ltd (Consolidated)
	€000	€000
Share capital	200	1
Other Reserves	43	43
Retained earnings	2,424	2,623
Total Equity	2,667	2,667
Tier II	70	70
Regulatory Deductions		
Intangible Assets	(8)	(8)
Additional deductions of CET1 Capital due to Article 3 of the CRR	(104)	(104)
Total Own funds as per the CoRep Forms	2,625	2,625



4. COMPLIANCE WITH THE REGULATION AND THE OVERALL PILLAR II RULE

4.1. Internal Capital

The purpose of capital is to provide sufficient resources to absorb unexpected losses over and above the ones that are expected in the normal course of business. The Group aims to maintain a minimum risk asset ratio which will ensure there is sufficient capital to support the business during stressed conditions.

4.2. Approach to assessing adequacy of Internal Capital

The Group shall establish an ICAAP, documented it in a Manual and shall produce in this regard the ICAAP Report, as per the Circular C026 and Circular C027. Upon CySEC's request the ICAAP Report shall be submitted to CySEC.

As per the CySEC's Dear CEO letter and the relevant provisions as stipulated in CySEC's Directive and CRR, the Group reviewed its Group structure as at 30 June 2019 and decided that it falls under consolidated supervision by CySEC. In this respect and as per the Section 3.3 of the Circular C026, the Group will prepare the ICAAP Report based on the consolidated Management Accounts for the year 2019.

The Group will adopt the Pillar I plus approach whereby it determines the minimum capital required under Pillar I methodology and subsequently incorporates in that methodology the risks that are either not covered or are partially covered by Pillar I. The Pillar I variable capital requirement is the sum of the credit risk and market risk requirements and the operational risk. In order to validate the adequacy of the above requirements under the Pillar I calculations, the ICAAP proceeds with the following individual tests:

- The adequacy of the credit and market risk requirements is assessed with reference to all relevant balance sheet items in order to ascertain if there are additional risks that are not covered by Pillar I
- Other risks connected with the balance sheet, such as liquidity risk and concentration risk, are reviewed in order to establish whether there should be an additional requirement that might not be covered under Pillar I
- The overall capital adequacy is tested by adding together the resulting requirement of the identified risks.
- The absolute impact of combinations of scenarios, including a severe market downturn, is considered in relation to the financial forecasts of the business to assess the potential impact on the capital base over a three year period (forward-looking).
- A comprehensive risk assessment is carried out for all risks, categorizing them under a risk profile by attributing the anticipated impact and likelihood of occurrence.
- Finally, additional measures are set for the mitigation of the identified risks as well as capital allocation.

The ICAAP Report describes how the Group implemented and embedded its ICAAP within its business. The ICAAP also describes the Group's Risk Management framework e.g. the Group's risk profile and the extent of risk appetite, the risk management limits if any, as well as the adequate capital to be held against all the risks (including risks other than the Pillar I risks) faced by the Group.



With regards to the ‘use test’ the following evidence shall be used to support that the ICAAP is embedded within the Firm:

- Senior management or board challenge, review and sign-off procedures; including any relevant notes in minutes from board and risk committee meetings.
- The extent to which the ICAAP is part of the firm’s capital management process, including the extent and use of capital modelling or scenario analysis and stress testing within the firm’s capital management policy. For example, in setting pricing and charges and the level and nature of future business.

In line with the Basel requirements, the key instruments to help the Group maintain adequate capitalization on an ongoing and forward-looking basis are:

- A strategic planning process which aligns risk strategy and appetite with commercial objectives;
- A continuous monitoring process against approved risk and capital targets set;
- Regular risk and capital reporting to management; and
- An economic capital and stress testing framework which also includes specific stress tests to underpin the Group’s recovery monitoring processes.



5. PILLAR I CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

The following sections show the overall Pillar I minimum capital requirement and risk weighted assets for the Group under the Standardised Approach to Credit Risk, Market Risk and the Fixed Overheads requirements.

5.1. Credit Risk

In the ordinary course of business, the Group is exposed to credit risk, which is monitored through various control mechanisms. Credit risk arises when a failure by counterparties to discharge their obligations could reduce the amount of future cash inflows from financial assets on hand at the balance sheet date.

The Group has policies to diversify risks and to limit the amount of credit exposure to any particular counterparty in compliance with the requirements of the Directive. The Group continuously monitors the fair value calculations, forecast and actual cash flows, and cost budgets so that to ensure that the carrying level of Group's own funds and consequently the Capital Adequacy ratio meet the regulatory requirements at all times.

Trade receivables are shown net of any provision made for impairment. The management believes that no additional credit risk, beyond amounts provided for collection losses, is inherent in the trade receivables. Cash balances are held with high credit quality financial institutions and the Group has policies to limit the amount of credit exposure to any financial institution.

IFRS 9 Impairment

IFRS 9 introduced a new model for recognition of impairment losses – the expected credit losses (“ECL”) model. The new rules require that entities will have to record an impairment loss equal to the 12-month ECL for financial assets that have not suffered a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition. Where there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, impairment is measured using lifetime ECL rather than 12-month ECL. Entities must calculate probability of default (“PD”), losses given default (“LGD”) and exposures at default (“EAD”) to estimate expected credit loss provisioning amounts. The model includes operational simplifications for lease and trade receivables which require lifetime losses to be calculated.

The Group has the following types of financial assets that are subject to the expected credit loss model: cash and cash equivalents. The Group provides for credit losses against loans to related parties, receivables, other receivables, and cash and cash equivalents. The loss allowance was not reflected on the position as it is the Group's policy not to adjust for immaterial amounts. The first €100.000 have been deducted from the calculation in case of EU banks under the Deposit Guarantee Scheme

5.1.1. Credit Risk Adjustments

The Group assesses at the balance sheet date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. A financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired and impairment losses are incurred only if there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset (a “loss



event”) and that loss event (or events) has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated.

Trade receivables are recognized initially at fair value and are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. For those trading receivables that are 90 days or more past due, in non-accrual status, the Group classifies them as “in default”, thus an impairment test will emerge. A financial asset is past due if a counterparty has failed to make a payment when contractually due.

Other receivables are recognized initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortized cost, using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of other receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Group will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or delinquency in payments are considered indicators that the trade receivable is impaired. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. When a receivable is uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account for other receivables. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited in the statement of comprehensive income. None of the derivative financial instruments is either past due or impaired.

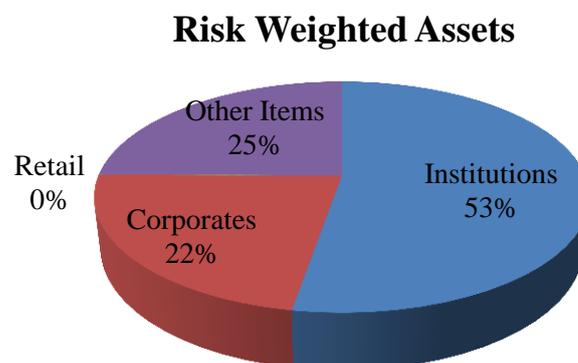
5.1.2. Credit Risk – Risk Weighted Assets

The minimum capital requirement for Credit risk is calculated by exposure using a factor of 8%. The following table shows the risk-weighted exposure amounts and the corresponding minimum capital requirements as at 31 December 2019 for the Group broken down by exposure class.

Table 8: Exposure classes as at 31 December 2019

Exposure class	Risk Weighted Assets	Capital Requirements
	€000	€000
Institutions	600	48
Corporates	255	20
Retail	1	0
Other Items	282	23
Total	1,138	91

The Regulation requires disclosure for additional asset classes. These have not been shown in the table above as these are nil as at the reporting period.





5.1.3. Credit Risk – Risk Weighted Assets by Geographical distribution of the exposure classes

The Group shall disclose the geographical distribution of the exposures, broken down in significant areas by material exposures classes. The geographical distribution of the exposure classes are as follows:

Table 3: Geographical distribution of the exposure classes

Exposure class	Cyprus €000	Germany €000	United Kingdom €000	Slovakia €000	Greece €000	Czech Republic €000	Total €000
Institutions	3	2,662	-	27	307	-	2,999
Corporates	-	-	100	105	-	51	255
Retail	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Items	288	-	-	-	-	-	288
Total	292	2,662	100	132	307	51	3,543

The Regulation requires disclosure for additional asset classes. These have not been shown in the table above as these are nil as at the reporting period.

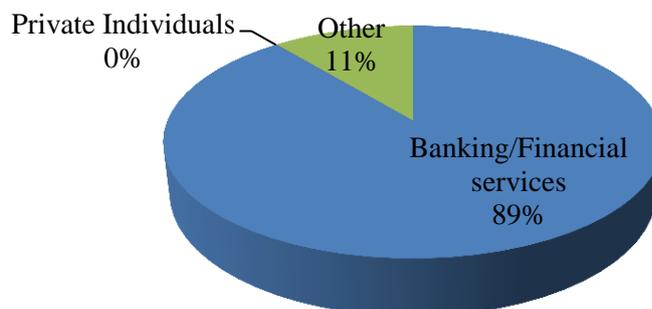
5.1.4. Credit Risk – Distribution of exposures by industry

The Group shall disclose the distribution of the exposures by industry or counterparty type, broken down by exposure classes, including specifying exposure to SMEs, and further detailed if appropriate as follows:

Table 4: Exposures by industry

Exposure class	Banking/Financial services	Private Individuals	Other	Total
	€000	€000	€000	€000
Institutions	2,999	-	-	2,999
Corporates	155	-	100	255
Retail	-	1	-	1
Other	-	-	288	288
Total	3,154	1	388	3,543

Exposure by Industry



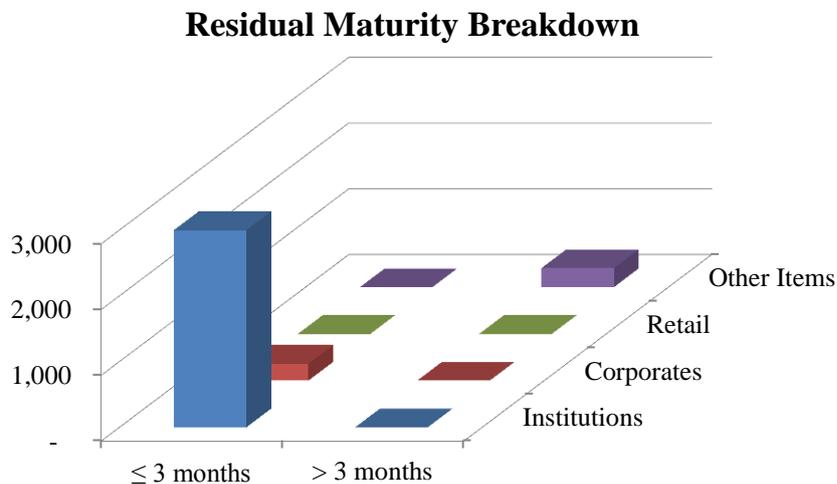


5.1.5. Residual maturity broken down by exposure classes

The Group shall disclose the residual maturity breakdown of all the exposures, broken down by exposure classes, as follows:

Table 5: Residual maturity broken down by exposure class

Exposure Class	Residual Maturity ≤ 3 months	Residual Maturity > 3 months	Total
	€000	€000	€000
Institutions	2,999	-	2,999
Corporates	255	-	255
Retail	-	1	1
Other Items	-	288	288
Total	3,254	288	3,543



5.2. Use of ECAIs

The Group shall disclose the names of the nominated External Credit Assessment Institutions (“ECAIs”) and the exposure values along with the association of the external rating with the credit quality steps.

The Group uses external credit ratings from Moody’s. These ratings are used for all relevant exposure classes. The general ECAI association with each credit quality step is as follows:

Table 6: ECAI Association with each credit quality step

Credit Quality Step	Moody’s Rating	Corporate	Institutions			Sovereign
			Sovereign method	Credit Assessment method		
				Maturity > 3 months	Maturity 3 months or less	
1	Aaa to Aa3	20%	20%	20%	20%	0%
2	A1 to A3	50%	50%	50%	20%	20%
3	Baa1 to Baa3	100%	100%	50%	20%	50%
4	Ba1 to Ba3	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%
5	B1 to B3	150%	100%	100%	50%	100%
6	Caa1 and below	150%	150%	150%	150%	150%



Exposures to unrated institutions are assigned a risk weight according to the credit quality step to which exposures to the central government of the jurisdiction in which the institution is incorporated, as specified in Article 121 of CRR. Notwithstanding the general treatment mentioned above, short term exposures to institutions could receive a favourable risk weight of 20% if specific conditions are met.

The Other Items category includes tangible assets, debtors and prepayments risk weighted at 100%, cash items in the process of collection risk weighted at 20% and cash in hand risk weighted at 0%.

Exposures to corporate clients were risk weighted by 100% risk factor since they were all unrated and were incorporated in countries with no credit rating or with credit assessment up to credit quality step 5.

Table 7: Breakdown of exposures by asset class and risk weight under the Standardised approach

Exposure Class	Risk Weight				Total €000	Of which unrated €000
	0%	20%	75%	100%		
	€000	€000	€000	€000		
Corporate	-	-	-	255	255	255
Institution	-	2999	-	-	2999	27
Retail	-	-	1	-	1	1
Other Items	6	-	-	282	288	288
Total	6	2,999	1	538	3,543	571

The table below presents exposure values before and after credit risk mitigation of the Group, corresponding to Credit Quality Steps (CQS). The values before credit risk mitigation represent the initial exposure value net of value adjustments while the values after credit risk mitigation represent exposures taking into account the eligible financial collateral funded and unfunded credit protection

Table 8: Exposures before and after credit risk mitigation as at 31 December 2019

Credit Quality Step	Exposure values before credit risk mitigation €000	Exposure values after credit risk mitigation €000
CQS 1	2,662	2,662
CQS 4	310	310
Unrated	571	571
Total	3,543	3,543

5.3. Market Risk

Market risk can be defined as the risk of losses in on and off-balance sheet positions arising from adverse movements in market prices. From a regulatory perspective, market risk stems from all foreign exchange risk positions in the whole balance sheet.

As a “Limited Licence”, the Group does not deal for its own account. Market risk is therefore limited to movements in foreign exchange rates.



5.3.1. Foreign Exchange Risk

The Group's reporting currency is Euro. Foreign exchange risk is the risk that the value of financial instruments will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates.

If the sum of the Group's overall net foreign-exchange position and its net gold position exceeds 2% of its total own funds, the Group calculates own funds requirements for foreign exchange risk. The own funds requirement for foreign exchange risk is the sum of its overall net foreign-exchange positions and its net gold position in the reporting currency, multiplied by 8%.

The foreign exchange risk is effectively managed by setting and controlling foreign exchange risk limits, such as through the establishment of maximum value of exposure to a particular currency pair as well as through the utilization of sensitivity analysis.

The Group's foreign exchange risk capital requirement is €33k emanating from a net foreign exchange exposure of €413k based on the latest relevant calculations of the capital requirements, as at 31 December 2019(unaudited).

Closely Correlated Currencies

Following the EBA's Final draft Implementing Technical Standards on Closely Correlated Currencies under Article 354 (3) of CRR, the Group may apply lower own funds requirements against positions in relevant closely correlated currencies as those are disclosed by EBA. In this respect, for the calculation of the foreign exchange risk for matched positions on closely correlated currencies, a capital requirement of 4% instead of 8% is used.

The Group's positions in non-reporting currencies and gold for the period were zero.

5.3.2. Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of financial instruments will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Group's income and operating cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates. Other than cash at bank, which attracts interest at normal commercial rates, the Group has no other significant interest bearing financial assets or liabilities. The Group's management monitors the interest rate fluctuations on a continuous basis and acts accordingly.

5.4. Operational Risk

Operational risk is the risk of loss arising from fraud, unauthorized activities, error, omission, inefficiency, systems failure or external events. It is inherent in every business organization and covers a wide range of issues. The following list presents some event-type categories, included in operational risk, with some examples for each category:



Internal Fraud	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•misappropriation of assets;•tax evasion;•intentional mismarking of positions;•bribery.
External Fraud	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•theft of information;•hacking damage;•third-party theft;•forgery.
Employment Practices and Workplace Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•discrimination;•workers compensation;•employee health;•safety.
Clients, Products, & Business Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•market manipulation;•antitrust;•improper trade;
Damage to physical assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•damage to physical assets from a natural disaster, e.g. earthquake
Business Disruption & Systems Failures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•utility disruptions;•software failures;•hardware failures.
Execution, Delivery, & Process Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•data entry errors;•accounting errors;•failed mandatory reporting;•negligent loss of Client assets.

The Group manages operational risk through a control-based environment in which processes are documented and transactions are reconciled and monitored. This is supported by continuous monitoring of operational risk incidents to ensure that past failures are not repeated.

Furthermore, the Group has in place policies and processes whose implementation assists with the evaluation and management of any exposures to operational risk.

The Group has implemented an operational risk management framework designed to ensure that operational risks are assessed, mitigated and reported in a consistent manner consisting of, inter alia, the following components:

- Maintaining a four-eye structure and implementing board oversight over the strategic decisions made by the heads of departments;
- A Disaster Recovery Plan has been designed in order to be used in the event of a force majeure affecting the Group's internal systems and databases; and



- Maintenance of Risk Registers in the Context of the ICAAP;
- A Business Continuity Plan has been implemented which helps protect all of the Group’s information databases including data, records and facilities.
- The majority of actions occurring in the Group’s systems are automated and therefore it is less likely that a human error will occur;
- Review of risks and controls as part of the Internal Audit function;
- Regular review and updating of the Group’s policies;

Following the outbreak of COVID-19 in Cyprus, the Firm has taken the required measures to ensure that its employees have access to its technology infrastructures necessary for the completion of their tasks and that additional system for critical functions are being provided. In this respect, the Business Continuity Plan has been amended accordingly.

5.4.1. Fixed Overheads Requirements

Following the CRDIV implementation, Operational Risk is replaced by Fixed Overheads requirements for “Limited Licence” CIFs (under Article 95(1) of the CRR, pursuant to Article 97 of the CRR. The purpose of this requirement is to enable CIFs to protect their investors in case of winding down or restructuring their activities and to hold sufficient financial resources to withstand operational expenses over an appropriate period of time. In this respect, the Group is required to hold eligible capital of at least one-quarter of the fixed overheads of the previous year based on the most recent audited annual financial statements, or projected fixed overheads in the case where an investment firm has not completed business for one year.

In addition to holding eligible capital of at least one-quarter of the fixed overheads of the previous year, CIFs have to calculate their total risk exposure based on fixed overheads. The Total Risk Exposure Amount for Limited Licence CIFs is the higher of the Total risk exposure amount (excluding Operational Risk) and the Fixed Overhead of the preceding year (or projected expenses as applicable) (x 12.5 x 25%).

The Group’s Fixed Overheads Risk Exposure amount which is calculated based on the consolidated Audited Financial Statements for the year 2019 is provided by the table below:

Table 9: Fixed Overhead Risk Exposure

Fixed Overheads	Fixed Overheads Requirements	Fixed Overheads Risk Exposure Amount	Additional Exposure Amount	Total Risk Exposure Amount
€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
2,840	710	8,874	7,322	8,874

In this respect, the Fixed Overheads risk exposure amount is €8,874k which is greater than the sum of the Credit Risk and Market Risk exposure which is €1,551k.



6. OTHER RISKS

6.1. Concentration Risk

Concentration Risk includes large individual exposures and significant exposures to companies whose likelihood of default is driven by common underlying factors such as the economy, geographical location, instrument type etc.

Concentration risk was partly addressed through diversification of counterparties, namely banking institutions. Moreover, the Group's experience in the collection of trade receivables has never caused debts which are past due and have to be impaired. The Group has a policy in place to monitor debts overdue by preparing debtors ageing reports.

Large Exposures

A large exposure is defined as the total exposure of a firm to a client or group of connected clients, in the banking book and its value is equal to or exceeds 10% of its eligible capital. Furthermore and where the amount of €150 million is higher than 25 % of the institution's eligible capital the value of the exposure, after taking into account the effect of credit risk mitigation in accordance with Articles 399 to 403 shall not exceed a reasonable limit in terms of the institution's eligible capital. That limit shall be determined by the institution in accordance with the policies and procedures referred to in Article 81 of Directive 2013/36/EU, to address and control concentration risk. This limit shall not exceed 100 % of the institution's eligible capital.

The Group is not subject to the Large Exposures regime, in accordance with Article 388 of the CRR. Nevertheless, according Paragraph 61 - Limitations on exposures to directors and shareholders of the Directive, a CIF is not allowed to have exposures to all directors more than 1% and to all shareholders that are not an institution, more than 2% of its eligible capital. Exposures to shareholders and directors are monitored and kept within the limits.

The Group's exposures are within the limits and as such no further actions are required.

6.2. Reputation Risk

Reputation risk is the current or prospective risk to earnings and capital arising from an adverse perception of the image of the Group on the part of customers, counterparties, shareholders, investors or regulators. Reputation risk could be triggered by poor performance, the loss of one or more of the Group's key directors, the loss of large customers, poor customer service, fraud or theft, customer claims, legal action and regulatory fines.

The Group has transparent policies and procedures in place when dealing with possible customer complaints in order to provide the best possible assistance and service under such circumstances. The possibility of having to deal with customer claims is very low as the Group provides high quality services to customers.

6.3. Strategic Risk

Strategic Risk could occur as a result of adverse business decisions, improper implementation of decisions or lack of responsiveness to changes in the business environment. The Group's



exposure to strategic risk is moderate as policies and procedures to minimize this type of risk are implemented in the overall strategy.

6.4. Business Risk

Business Risk includes the current or prospective risk to earnings and capital arising from changes in the business environment including the effects of deterioration in economic conditions. Research on economic and market forecasts are conducted with a view to minimize the Group's exposure to business risk. These are analyzed and taken into consideration when implementing the Group's strategy.

6.5. Capital Risk Management

Capital Risk is the risk that the Group will not comply with capital adequacy requirements. The Group's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders. The Group has a regulatory obligation to monitor and implement policies and procedures for capital risk management. Specifically, the Group is required to test its capital against regulatory requirements and has to maintain a minimum level of capital. This ultimately ensures the going concern of the Group. Such procedures are explained in the Procedures Manual.

The Group is further required to report on its capital adequacy quarterly and has to maintain at all times a minimum total capital adequacy ratio which is set at 8%. The capital adequacy ratio expresses the capital base of the Group as a proportion of the total risk weighted assets. Management monitors such reporting and has policies and procedures in place to help meet the specific regulatory requirements. This is achieved through the preparation on a monthly basis of management accounts to monitor the financial and capital position.

6.6. Regulatory Risk

Regulatory risk is the risk the Group faces by not complying with relevant Laws and Directives issued by its supervisory body. If materialized, regulatory risk could trigger the effects of reputation and strategic risk. The Group has documented procedures and policies based on the requirements of relevant Laws and Directives issued by the Commission; these can be found in the Procedures Manual. Compliance with these procedures and policies are further assessed and reviewed by the Internal Auditors and suggestions for improvement are implemented by management. The Internal Auditors evaluate and test the effectiveness of the Group's control framework at least annually. Therefore the risk of non-compliance is very low.

6.7. Legal and Compliance Risk

Legal and Compliance Risk could arise as a result of breaches or non-compliance with legislation, regulations, agreements or ethical standards and have an effect on earnings and capital. Following the replacement of the Law 144(I)/2007 by Law 87(I)/2017 for the purpose of harmonization with MIFID II, several regulatory changes were applied that may cause the Group's exposure to compliance risk. The Group among others is also exposed to legal and compliance risk arising from inability or inadequate arrangements to comply with the requirements related to the:

- Product Governance (Circular C236, Directive DI87-01),
- New rules governing derivatives on virtual currencies (Circular C268),



- Commission Delegated Regulation of 8 June 2016 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to regulatory technical standards for the annual publication by investment firms of information on the identity of execution venues and on the quality of execution,
- Policy Statement on the Risk Management Arrangements of Cyprus Investment Firms Providing Investment Services in CFDs,
- European Securities and Markets Authority Decision (EU) 2019/155 of 23 January 2019 renewing the product intervention measures relating to the marketing, distribution or sale of contracts for differences to retail clients,
- Provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2016/679 and
- 4th AML Directive (Directive (EU) 2015/849)
- 5th AML Directive (Directive (EU) 2015/849)
- EMIR Refit

The probability of such risks occurring is relatively low due to the detailed internal procedures and policies implemented by the Group and regular reviews by the Internal Auditors. The structure of the Group is such to promote clear coordination of duties and the management consists of individuals of suitable professional experience, ethos and integrity, who have accepted responsibility for setting and achieving the Group's strategic targets and goals. In addition, the Board meets at least annually to discuss such issues and any suggestions to enhance compliance are implemented by management. Finally and with respect the Implications of NBP, the Group has contractual agreements with an entity in a non-equivalent third country and as such it is required to maintain a minimum additional capital buffer.

6.8. IT Risk

IT risk could occur as a result of inadequate information technology and processing, or arise from an inadequate IT strategy and policy or inadequate use of the Group's information technology. Specifically, policies have been implemented regarding back-up procedures, software maintenance, hardware maintenance, use of the internet and anti-virus procedures. Materialization of this risk has been minimized to the lowest possible level.

6.9. Risk Reporting

The Group maintains a system in place to record any risk event incurred on a special form duly completed by personnel of each department and is submitted to the Compliance officer and Risk manager when such event occur.

6.10. Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is defined as the risk when the maturity of assets and liabilities does not match. An unmatched position potentially enhances profitability, but can also increase the risk of losses. The Group has policies and procedures with the object of minimizing such losses.

6.11. Conduct Risk

Conduct risk is defined as the risk of an action, by an individual, financial institution or the industry as a whole, which leads to customer detriment or, undermines market integrity. This can bring sanctions and negative publicity. Moreover, EBA has defined conduct risk as the current or prospective risk of losses to an institution arising from inappropriate supply of financial services



including cases of wilful or negligent misconduct. Consequently, conduct risk arises from failures of designated liquidity providers located in third countries associated with the Group.

Additionally, the Group is exposed to negative balances with its Liquidity Providers, in case of fast-pacing volatile market, where the LP cannot close a position at the Group's stop out limit. Therefore, the Group may be exposed to conduct risk arising from inadequate agreements with the Liquidity Providers and/or with the third parties that hold client's funds.

As part of risk management policy and tools, the Group has procedures in place to diversify its liquidity providers and monitor their financial position on an on-going basis. The financial soundness of the liquidity providers is closely monitored and the Group is ready to switch to alternative LPs, if necessary. Furthermore, the receivable/payable amounts with the LPs are monitored on a daily basis. In particular, the Group examines its existing procedures and arrangements with respect to the products offered and services provided.

Further to the above, the agreement of MoUs between CySEC and FCA is expected to maintain investors' protection via the appropriate communications channels between the two competent authorities and as such may have a negative impact on the Group's risk profile due to the hard Brexit Scenario is mitigated.



7. REMUNERATION POLICY

The Group has established a remuneration policy, which its purpose is to set out the remuneration practices of the Group taking into consideration the salaries and benefits of the staff, in accordance with the provisions of Directive as well as the Circular 031 (Circular 031 has been issued in place of Guidelines GD-IF-07 for the correct filing purposes) on remuneration policies and practices, where these comply with specific principles in a way and to the extent that is appropriate to the Group's size, internal organization and the nature, scope and complexity of its activities. Furthermore, the Group's remuneration strategy is designed to reward and motivate the people who are committed to maintaining a long term career with the Group and performing their role in the interests of the Group.

The design of the Policy is approved by the people who effectively direct the business of the Group, after taking advice from the compliance function, and implemented by appropriate functions to promote effective corporate governance. The people who effectively direct the business are responsible for the implementation of remuneration policies and practices and for preventing and dealing with any relevant risks, that remuneration policies and practices can create. The Board discusses remuneration policy matters at least annually.

Furthermore, the Policy also benefits from the full support of senior management or, where appropriate, the supervisory function, so that necessary steps can be taken to ensure that relevant persons effectively comply with the conflicts of interest and conduct of business policies and procedures.

Moreover, the Policy adopts and maintains measures enabling them to effectively identify where the relevant person fails to act in the best interest of the client and to take remedial action.

Finally, the Group's remuneration policy aims to:

- a) Determine the Financial remuneration (i.e. share, options, cancellations of loans to relevant persons at dismissal, pension contributions, remuneration by third parties e.g. through carried interest models, wage increases), and
- b) Determine non-financial Remuneration (i.e. career progression, health insurance, discounts or special allowances for car or mobile phones, generous expense accounts, seminars in exotic destinations), and
- c) Determine the assessment of the employees, and
- d) Provide for sufficient motives so as for the Relevant Persons to achieve the business targets, deliver an appropriate link between reward and performance whilst at the same time become a comprehensive, consistent and effective risk management tool that prevents excessive risk taking and/or mis selling practices in light of financial incentives schemes, which could lead to compliance risks for the Group in the long-run.

7.1. Remuneration System

The Group's remuneration system and policy is concerned with practices of the Group for those categories of staff whose professional activities have a material impact on its risk profile, i.e. the Senior Management and members of the Board; the said practices are established to ensure that the rewards for the executive management are linked to the Group's performance, to provide an



incentive to achieve the key business aims and deliver an appropriate link between reward and performance whilst ensuring base salary levels are not set at artificially low levels. The Group uses remuneration as a significant method of attracting and retaining key employees whose talent can contribute to the Group's short and long term success.

The remuneration mechanisms employed are well known management and human resources tools that take into account the following factors in order to determine the remuneration of each staff member:

- a) The financial viability of the Group,
- b) The general financial situation and the state in which the Group operates,
- c) Each employee's personal objectives (such as personal development, compliance with the Group's systems and controls, compliance with regulatory requirements, commitment and work ethics) performance evaluation and the rating received based on their annual performance in relation to the objectives set up at the beginning of the period,
- d) Each employee's professional conduct with clients (such as acting in the best interest of the Client, fair treatment of clients and inducing client satisfaction), as applicable.

The remuneration system takes into account the highly competitive sector in which the Group operates, and the considerable amount of resources the Group invests in each member of the staff. The remuneration includes all forms of benefits provided by the Group to its staff and can be Financial or non-Financial remuneration.

It is noted that the Group has taken into account its size, internal organisation and the nature, the scope and the complexity of its activities and it does not deem necessary the establishment of a specific remuneration committee. Decisions on these matters are taken on a Board level while the remuneration policy is periodically reviewed.

The remuneration varies for different positions/roles depending on each position's actual functional requirements, and it is set at levels which reflect the educational level, experience, accountability, and responsibility needed for a staff member to perform each position/role. The remuneration is also set in comparison with standard market practices employed by the other market participants/ competitors. Furthermore, the employee's personal goals and performance evaluation in relation to the objectives set up at the beginning of the period and the employee's professional conduct with clients are taken into account in order to determine the remuneration.

The total remuneration of staff currently consists of a fixed and a variable component. Fixed Remuneration varies for different positions/roles depending on each position's actual functional requirements, and it is set at levels which reflect the educational level, experience, risk, accountability, and responsibility needed for an employee to perform each position/role. The Policy is also set in comparison with standard market practices employed by the other market participants/competitors. The Group's fixed Remuneration is approved by the Senior Management for all the relevant employees and it is reviewed by the Group at least annually and according to the relevant legislation without affecting the other terms of employment. Benefits provided to the Group's Relevant Persons, such as private health insurance, are not employee performance-related and are considered part of the fixed Remuneration.

Moreover, the Group's has in place a 'variable Remuneration scheme' whereby the Relevant Persons may receive variable Remuneration in addition to their monthly fixed salary/fixed fee (in



case of third party service providers) and in accordance with Section 9 of the Policy. Variable Remuneration is only paid via the Group's payroll system either via wire transfers. Moreover, the Group does not award, pay or provide guaranteed variable Remuneration.

The Group has diversified four main categories that the relevant persons may receive the variable remuneration:

- a) Senior Management;
- b) Control Functions;
- c) Sales and Retention Functions;
- d) Other Relevant Persons

This kind of remuneration is not guaranteed and the Board has determined a maximum percentage of variable remuneration relative to the fixed remuneration in order to ensure a compliant ratio between these two kinds of remuneration. Although, the maximum limit on variable remuneration set at 100% of fixed salary, the limit could be set at 200% upon shareholders' approval according to the Article 94 of Directive 2013/36/EU.

Furthermore there no remuneration is payable under deferral arrangements (with vested or unvested portions). Finally the Group did not pay any non-cash remuneration for the year under review, since it does not have non-cash instrument, such as shares or other equivalent non-cash instrument, in place.

The Group recognizes that its remuneration system have some features that increases the mis-selling risk. Therefore, the Group applies effective mitigation controls for each part of the remuneration system.

7.2. Link between the pay and performance

The Group recognises the responsibility that the Staff has in driving its future success and delivering value for the Group and that remuneration is a key component in motivating and compensating its employees. Furthermore, the overall remuneration policy incorporates an annual variable incentive compensation reflecting individual performance and overall performance.

The individual performance is assessed during the annual appraisal process, which establishes objectives for all staff covering both financial and non-financial factors, specific behavioral competencies including compliance and risk management behaviors with regards to the Group's procedures.

The Group shall ensure that where remuneration is linked with performance, the total amount of Remuneration is based on a combination of the performance assessment of:

- a) the individual (quantitative as well as qualitative criteria-except those who perform their duties on Control Functions where only qualitative criteria apply- are taken into account; annual performance evaluation and performance rating are taken into account),
- b) the business unit concerned, and
- c) the overall results of the Group and as long as conflicts of interest are mitigated, as described in this Policy.



The performance appraisal on medium and short-term is being performed as follows:

1. Objectives are set in the beginning of each year (depending on the department appraisal process) defining what the Group functions, departments and individuals are expected to achieve during the year and semi-annually.
2. Performance checks and feedbacks: managers provide support and feedback to the concerned staff annually and semi-annually, during formal or informal performance reviews; the aim is to assist the staff to develop their skills and competencies.
3. Annual performance review takes place annually. The annual performance review also determines the level of the annual (one-off) variable Remuneration to be awarded to the employees. The variable elements of the Remuneration depend on the annual performance evaluation of each employee, the fulfillment of their annual performance related targets and the annual financial performance of the Group.

7.3. Remuneration of Senior Management Personnel and Directors

The remuneration policy is intended to ensure that the business will attract and retain the most qualified Senior Management Personnel and Directors. As stated above, in the criteria used for determining the remuneration of the directors are segregated into quantitative and the qualitative criteria. The quantitative remuneration criteria mostly rely on numeric and financial data such as the business's performance and the individual performance evaluation and ratings of each member of the staff whose professional activities affect the risk profile of the firm.

In addition to the quantitative criteria, the Group has put in place qualitative criteria which include compliance with regulatory requirements and internal procedures, fair treatment of clients and client satisfaction. Moreover, the remuneration of the non-executive directors is fixed and it is set at a level that is market aligned and reflects the qualification and competencies required based on the business's size and complexity, the responsibilities and the time that the non-executive directors are expected to consume. The remuneration of the senior management personnel of the Group, including Board are shown in the following tables:

Table 10: Remuneration analysis split by Senior Management and key management personnel

2019	Senior Management (Executive Directors)	Key Management personnel	Non-Executive Directors
Fixed reward	192,601	395,887	12,000
Variable reward	14,647	78,836	0
Total	207,248	474,724	12,000
Number of beneficiaries	4	14	2

*The variable to fixed ratio is 16% which is below the maximum limit of 100%.

Companies are required to disclose the number of natural persons that are remunerated €1mln or more per financial year, in pay brackets of €1mln, including their job responsibilities, the business area involved and the main elements of salary, bonus, long-term award and pension contribution. Nevertheless, currently there are no natural persons at the Group that are remunerated €1mln or more per financial year and as such the above disclosure is not applicable. No sign-on payments have been awarded during 2019, while no severance payments were paid



during the year. Furthermore, aggregate remuneration analyzed by business area is presented below:

Table 11: Aggregate remuneration analysis by business area

Business Area	Aggregate Remuneration
	€
Control Functions*	220,379
Brokerage Department	23,357
Back office Department	156,402
Support/Sales Unit	260,033
Portfolio Management Department	21,800
Total	681,972

*Control functions include the Executive Directors and Compliance Function.